

PUBLIC PERSPECTIVES



HUMAN RIGHTS

August 2018



GENERAL THEMES FROM THE DATA ARE...

1

Unsurprisingly, human rights are considered very important by a majority of Canadians. But only half say that they are knowledgeable about them. Further, while they're considered important, it is noteworthy that one-third of Canadians say there is no such a thing as human rights.

2

Canadians believe that freedom from discrimination and freedom of speech are the top two most important rights to protect. Children, disabled people and the elderly were identified by Canadians as being the most in need of human rights protection.

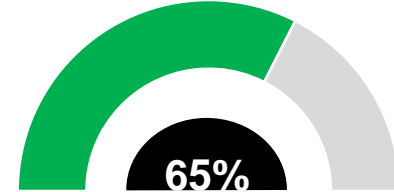
WHILE THERE IS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS, ONLY HALF OF CANADIANS SAY THEY KNOW MUCH ABOUT THEM; A MINORITY OF CANADIANS SAY THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS HUMAN RIGHTS

HOW MUCH, IF ANYTHING, WOULD YOU SAY YOU KNOW ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

■ Great Deal/Fair Total ■ Don't know ■ Not very/Nothing



People in favour of human rights say that all human beings are born with equal rights, no matter who they are or where they are born. These rights can never be taken away, even though they might be restricted at times (for example, if someone breaks the law or for national security). When it comes to human rights, which of the following statements comes closest to what you believe...there is such a thing as human rights OR there is no such thing as human rights?

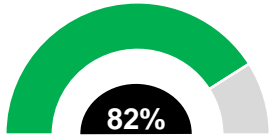


Diff vs Global Average: -8%

(% Cdns who think there are rights that all human beings are born with)

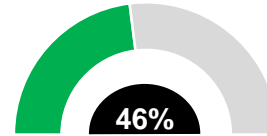
ONLY A MINORITY OF CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE IN THE COUNTRY ENJOYS THE SAME HUMAN RIGHTS; THEREFORE LAWS TO PROTECT THEM ARE CONSIDERED IMPORTANT BECAUSE THEY'RE SEEN AS CRITICAL FOR A FAIRER SOCIETY

It is important to have a law that protects human rights in Canada (% agree)



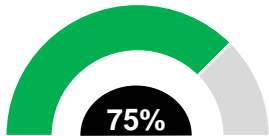
Diff vs Global Average: +4%

Everyone in Canada enjoys the same basic human rights (% agree)



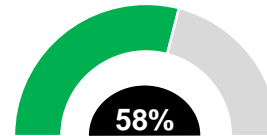
Diff vs Global Average: +3%

Human rights are important for creating a fairer society in Canada (% agree)



Diff vs Global Average: +3%

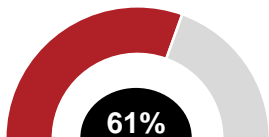
What difference, if at all, do you think laws protecting human rights make to your life? (% positive)



Diff vs Global Average: +5%

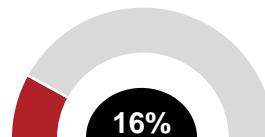
AT THE SAME TIME, A MAJORITY OF CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT SOME PEOPLE TAKE UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Some people take unfair advantage of human rights



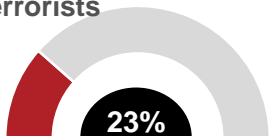
Diff vs Global Average: -3%

Human rights are meaningless to me in everyday life



Diff vs Global Average: -3%

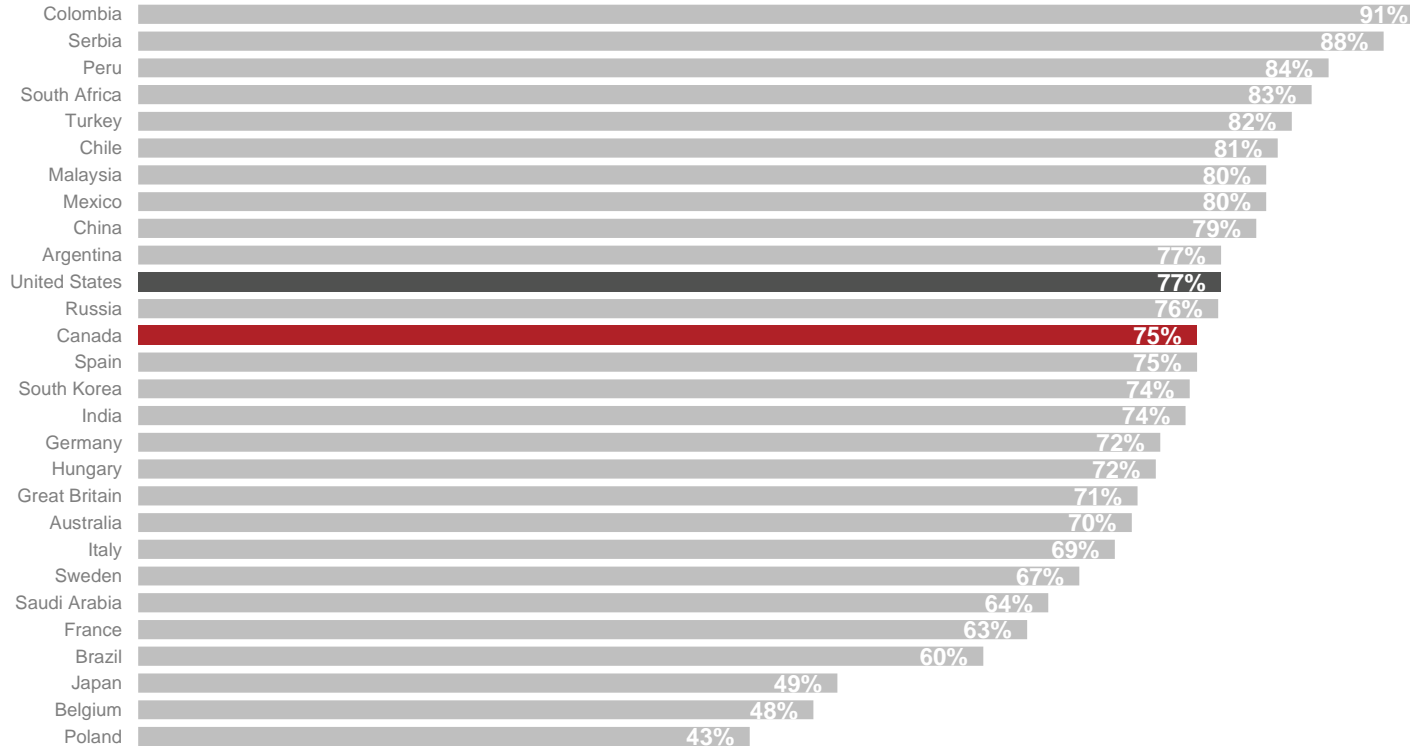
The only people who benefit from human rights in Canada are those who do not deserve them, such as criminals and terrorists



Diff vs Global Average: -14%

Globally, Canada is in the middle of the pack of countries in believing that human rights create a fairer society

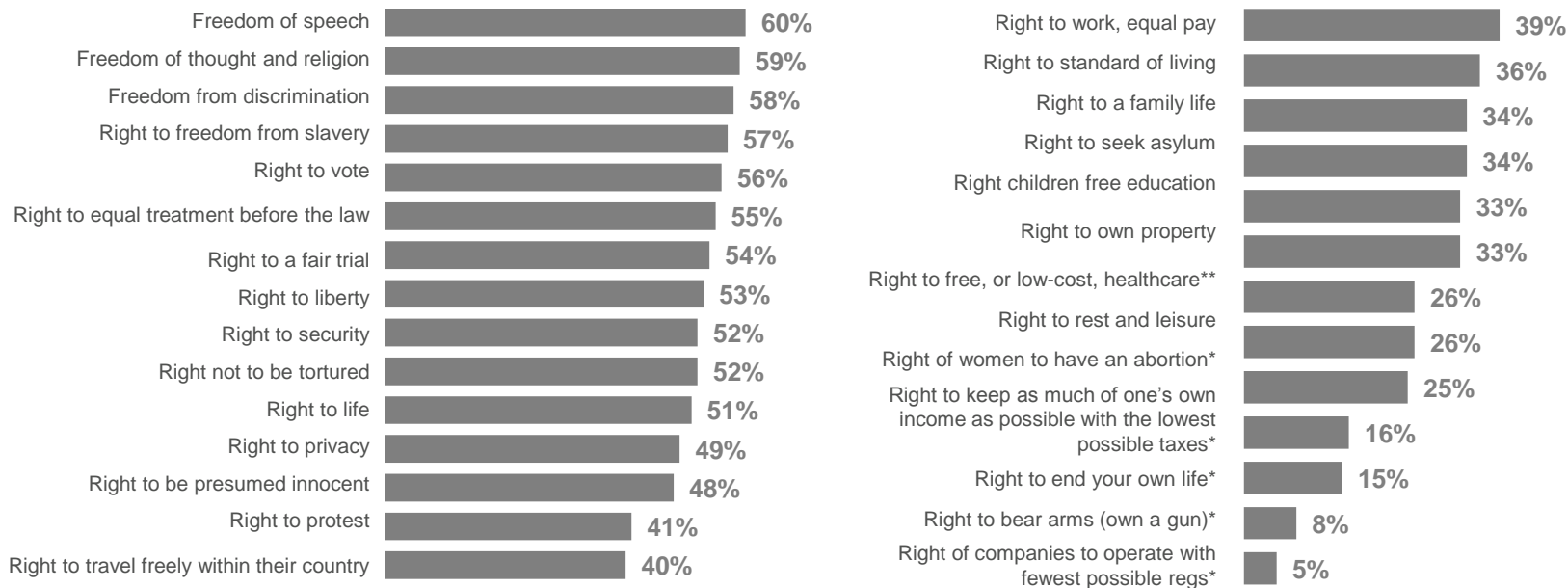
HUMAN RIGHTS ARE IMPORTANT FOR CREATING A FAIRER SOCIETY (% AGREE)



Q. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

CANADIANS' UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS DEFINED BY THE UN MOSTLY CONSISTENT WITH GLOBAL AVERAGES

As you may know, the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights identifies a series of fundamental rights that should be universally protected for all peoples across all nations. Which of the following, if any, do you think are defined as Human Rights according to the UN? (% Canadians think item is a right)

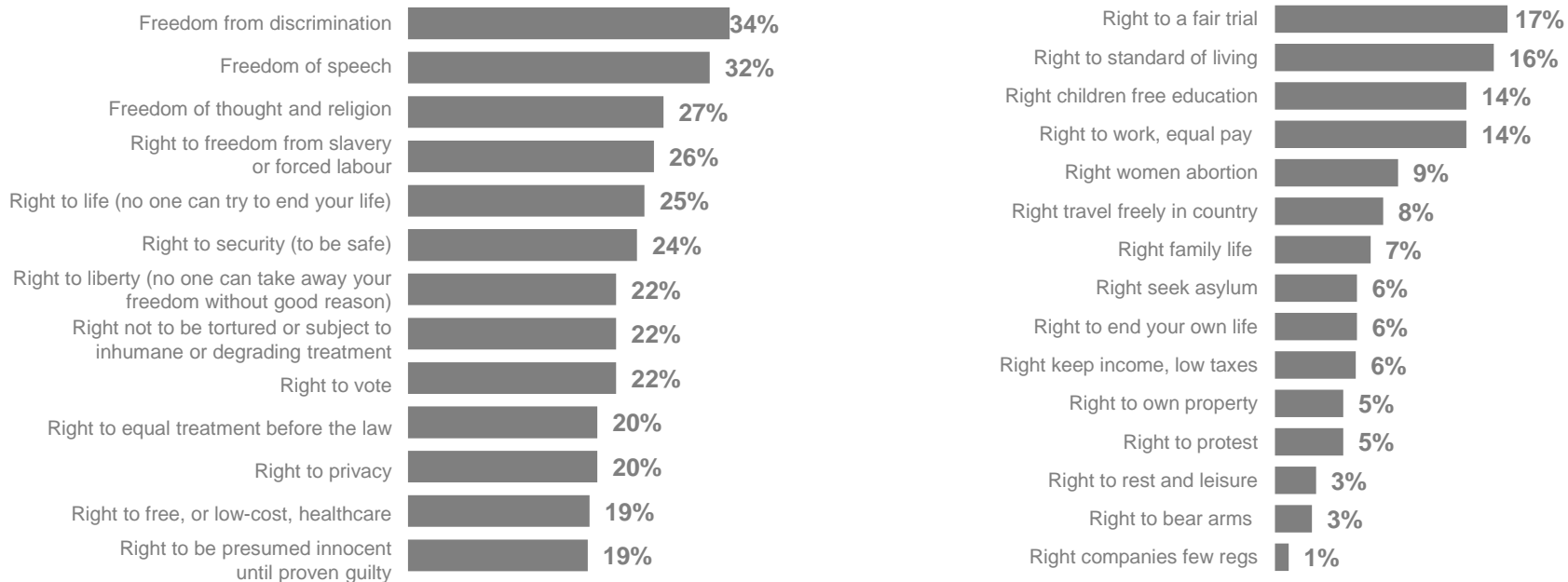


* Not mentioned in the U.N Declaration of Human Rights

** Free or low-cost implied, but not explicitly mentioned in UNDHR

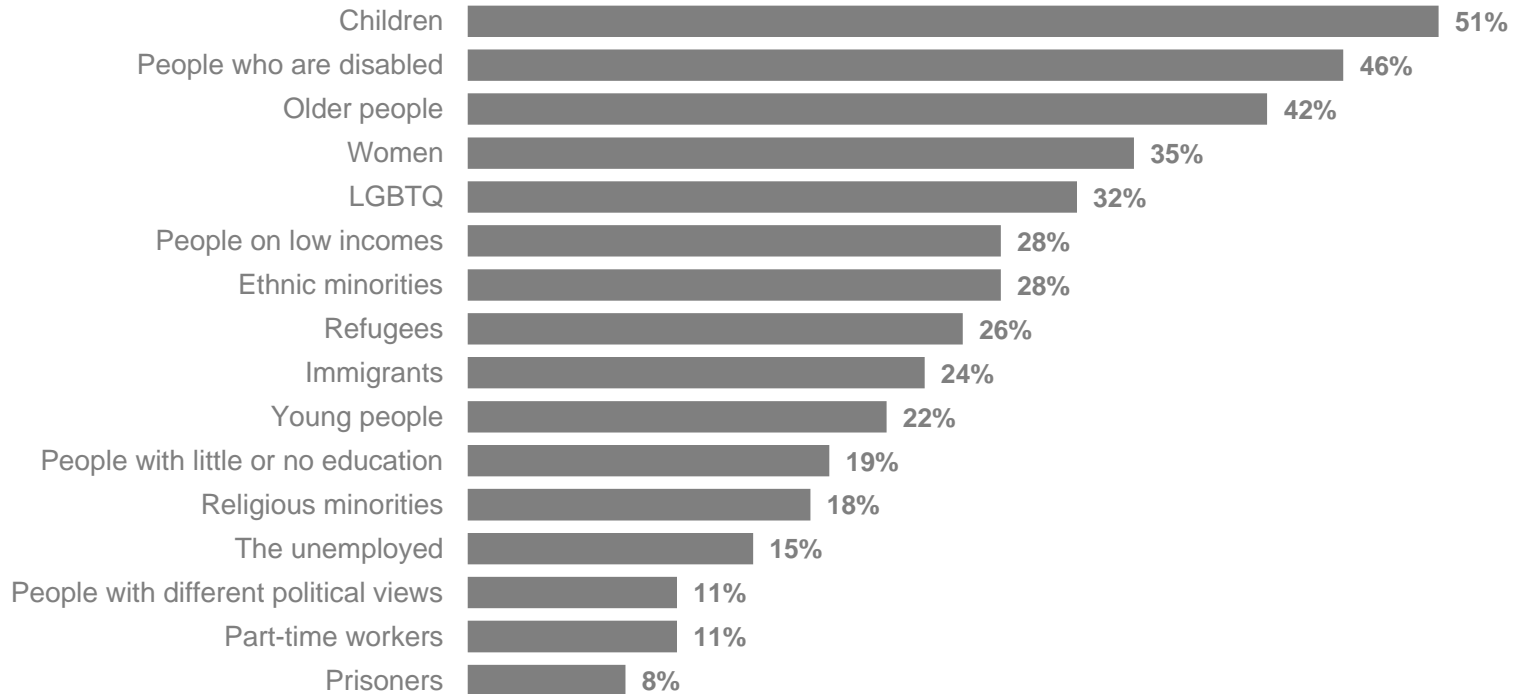
CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH ARE THE TOP TWO MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHTS TO PROTECT

And from the list below, which four or five, if any, do you think are most important to protect as human rights?
(% Canadians think are most important)



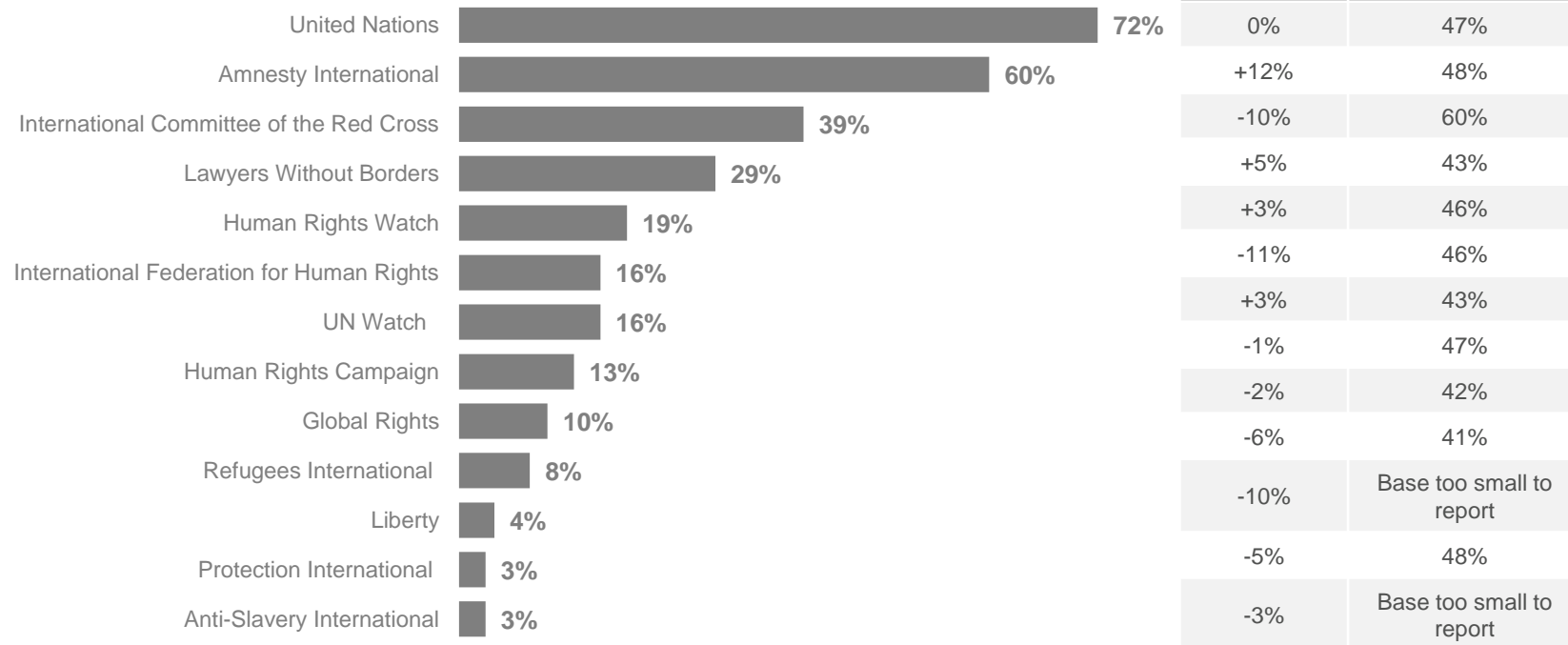
CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT CHILDREN, DISABLED AND OLDER PEOPLE ARE MOST IN NEED OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION

WHICH, IF ANY, OF THESE GROUPS NEED THE MOST PROTECTION FOR THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS? (MULTI-MENTION)



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HAS A MUCH HIGHER AWARENESS IN CANADA THAN GLOBALLY; ASIDE FROM THE RED CROSS, NONE OF THE GROUPS ARE SEEN AS DOING A GOOD JOB

Which, if any, of the following organizations have you heard of? IF AWARE, Do you think X is doing a good job protecting Human Rights or is it making no difference?



METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted in 28 countries via the Ipsos Online Panel system: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, France, Great Britain, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America.

Interviews were conducted between May 25 and June 8, 2018 with 23,249 adults aged 18-64 in Canada and the U.S. and 16-64 in all other countries.

Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, India, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey, where each have a sample of approximately 500+.

Weighting has been employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country census data.

A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size would have an estimated margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points for a sample of 1,000 and an estimated margin of error of +/- 4.5 percentage points for a 500 sample 19 times out of 20.

In 17 of the 28 countries surveyed internet penetration is sufficiently high to think of the samples as representative of the wider population within the age ranges covered: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, Serbia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Great Britain and United States.

Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Russia, Peru, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey have lower levels of internet penetration and so these samples should not be considered to be fully nationally representative, but instead to represent a more affluent, connected population. These are still a vital social group to understand in these countries, representing an important and emerging middle class.

CONTACTS

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